

SULLIVAN'S ISLAND BIRD BANDING STATION FALL 2016 TOTALS

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We are excited to announce our Fall 2016 totals from the Sullivan's Island bird banding station! We banded a total of 1,552 new birds and processed 147 recaptures. We banded 62 species in Fall 2016. Of the 62 species banded this season, 17 species were new for the station. This brings the station's grand total to 75 species banded (since we opened in September 2015).

New species banded in Fall 2016 included Acadian Flycatcher, Barred Owl, Northern Harrier, White-crowned Sparrow, Yellow-breasted Chat, Bell's Vireo, Swainson's Thrush, Swainson's Warbler, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Summer Tanager, Prothonotary Warbler, Northern Flicker, House Finch, Northern Parula, Great Crested Flycatcher, Common Ground Dove, and Blackpoll Warbler.



Above: Northern Flicker



Above: Bell's Vireo. This species is a Western bird and is a vagrant in the state of SC

Please take a look at our comprehensive list of birds banded at the Sullivan's Island banding station from Fall 2015-Fall 2016:

Species Common Name	Fall 2015	Spring 2016	Fall 2016	Total
Acadian Flycatcher	0	0	2	2
American Goldfinch	1	0	0	1
American Redstart	21	1	53	75
American Robin	2	0	1	3
Baltimore Oriole	0	0	2	2
Barred Owl	0	0	1	1
Bell's Vireo	0	0	1	1
Black-and-white Warbler	2	1	6	9
Blackpoll Warbler	0	0	3	3
Black-throated Blue Warbler	11	0	12	23
Blue Jay	1	4	2	7
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	1	0	6	7
Blue-headed Vireo	1	0	0	1
Brown Thrasher	3	5	16	24
Cape May Warbler	1	0	1	2
Carolina Chickadee	2	3	5	10
Carolina Wren	7	5	21	33
Cedar Waxwing	0	1	0	1
Chuck-will's Widow	1	1	0	2
Common Grackle	0	24	0	24
Common Ground Dove	0	0	1	1
Common Yellowthroat	76	3	94	173
Cooper's Hawk	1	0	1	2
Downy Woodpecker	0	2	4	6
Eastern Phoebe	2	0	4	6
Eastern Towhee	3	2	11	16
Eastern Wood Peewee	1	0	0	1
Field Sparrow	1	0	0	1
Golden-crowned Kinglet	3	0	1	4
Gray Catbird	209	15	607	831
Gray-cheeked Thrush	0	0	1	1
Great Crested Flycatcher	0	0	5	5
Hermit Thrush	7	4	8	19
Hooded Warbler	0	0	1	1

House Finch	0	0	1	1
House Wren	7	0	5	12
Indigo Bunting	9	0	7	16
Least Flycatcher	2	0	1	3
Louisiana Waterthrush	0	1	0	1
Magnolia Warbler	1	0	1	2
Northern Cardinal	39	26	31	96
Northern Flicker	0	0	1	1
Northern Harrier	0	0	1	1
Northern Mockingbird	1	0	7	8
Northern Parula	0	0	5	5
Northern Waterthrush	19	1	37	57
Orange-Crowned Warbler	2	0	0	2
Ovenbird	4	1	6	11
Painted Bunting	10	13	20	43
Prairie Warbler	5	0	13	18
Prothonotary Warbler	0	0	1	1
Red-bellied Woodpecker	0	1	0	1
Red-eyed Vireo	6	1	101	108
Red-winged Blackbird	0	0	1	1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	10	0	10	20
Savannah Sparrow	1	0	0	1
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	0	0	2
Song Sparrow	19	1	8	28
Summer Tanager	0	0	1	1
Swainson's Thrush	0	0	7	7
Swainson's Warbler	0	0	1	1
Swamp Sparrow	3	0	9	12
Traill's Flycatcher	2	0	13	15
Tree Swallow	3	0	0	3
Veery	1	1	7	9
Western Palm Warbler	31	0	19	50
White-Crowned Sparrow	0	0	1	1
White-eyed Vireo	11	1	56	68
White-throated Sparrow	3	7	3	13
Wilson's Warbler	1	0	0	1
Yellow Palm warbler	1	0	1	2
Yellow Warbler	4	0	1	5
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1	0	1	2
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	0	1	9	10

Yellow-breasted Chat	0	0	2	2
Yellow-rumped Warbler	207	5	294	506
Total	762	131	1552	2445

Red	Summer Resident
Blue	Winter Resident
Green	Year-round Resident
Purple	Migration Only
Yellow	Accidental/Vagrant

This Fall 2016, we recaptured 147 birds including 13 individuals that we had banded in Spring 2016 or Fall 2015. Some of the birds that had been banded in previous seasons were year-round residents, such as the Eastern Towhee, Northern Cardinals, and Carolina Wrens. Others were winter residents that returned to the Protected land in subsequent seasons (two Yellow-rumped warblers, a White-throated Sparrow, and a Hermit Thrush.) We cannot conclude with certainty if the recaptured Gray Catbird had migrated through in Fall 2015 and returned in Fall 2016 or if it had simply remained in the same area for a year. It was originally banded on 11/6/2015 and was recaptured on 11/7/2016, almost exactly a year later!



A Gray Catbird, our most frequently-banded species.

An additional Gray Catbird was recovered deceased in Florida on 10/23/2016, which was 10 days after it was banded on Sullivan's Island on 10/13/2016. This indicates that the bird was likely migrating down the Atlantic Flyway and using Sullivan's Island as a stopover location. This individual was banded at 7:00am with a large group of Gray Catbirds indicating that they likely flew through the night to land at the study site for refueling. This bird had a fat score of 2 out of 6 when it was originally processed, again indicating that it was migrating and was most likely not a year-round resident.

Recaptured Individuals of Fall 2016 from Fall of 2015

Species Common Name	Band Number	Original Banding Date	Net Number	Recapture date	Net Number
Hermit Thrush	2741-28215	11/4/2015	3	11/11/2016	5
Yellow-rumped Warbler	2780-15139	11/14/2015	6	10/29/2016	5
	"	"		11/11/2016	5
Eastern Towhee	1372-20505	11/11/2015	5	10/20/2016	14
Gray Catbird	2701-29025	11/06/2015	6	11/07/2016	5
Northern Cardinal	2451-39087	10/01/2015	4	10/17/2016	15
Northern Cardinal	2451-39025	09/25/2015	6	10/21/2016	4

Table 7. Shows resident, winter residents, and potentially still migrating birds returning within very close proximity to their original capture sites from 2015. Notably Gray Catbird 2701-29025 was captured within 1 day of its original banding date in the Fall of 2015.

Recaptured Individuals of Fall 2016 from Spring 2016 Banding Season

Species Common Name	Band Number	Original Banding Date	Recapture date	Net Number
White Throated Sparrow	2741- 28250	4/21/2016	11/11/2016	15
Yellow-rumped Warbler	2770-85566	3/24/2016	11/04/2016	12
Carolina Wren	2741-28244	03/28/2016	09/09/2016	
Northern Cardinal	2451-39138	05/19/2016	9/28/2016	15
	"	"	11/03/2016	16
Northern Cardinal	2451-39124	04/11/2016	09/16/2016	1

Table 8. Demonstrates the birds captured in the Spring of 2016, most of which are year-round residents. The spring banding of White Throated Sparrow #2741-28250 and its recapture in November suggests that it was originally processed at the end of the winter season before it departed Northward for summer breeding, and was recaptured upon its return for the following winter season in 2016. The same conclusions could be drawn from the winter Yellow-rumped Warbler that was processed in spring of 2016 and recaptured in late fall of 2016.



Above: Great Crested Flycatcher banded this past Fall



Above: Juvenile Cooper's Hawk Banded in Fall 2016



Above: Barred Owl banded Fall 2016



We banded 101 Red-eyed Vireos this Fall, compared to 6 in Fall 2015.
This is due to our earlier start date (August 29th)

We are looking to placing geotags on 5 new painted buntings this Spring 2017. We may also be placing a GPS tag on a Chuck-will's Widow. More details to come...



Adult male Painted Bunting banded Spring 2016